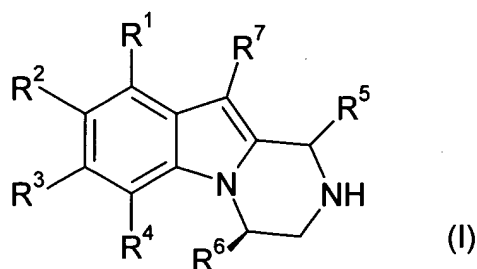


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound according to claim 1, wherein~~ A chiral compound of formula (I)



wherein

-R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy or heterocycetyl;

with the proviso that at least one of the moieties R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is not hydrogen; and

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R<sup>6</sup> is alkyl or cycloalkyl; and

R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio;

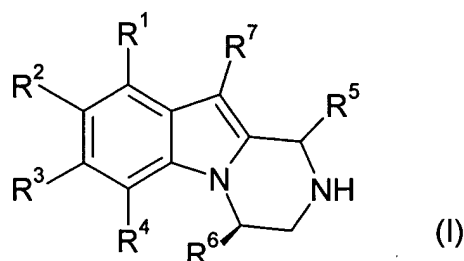
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt,

a hydrate, or

a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

3 – 32. (Canceled).

33. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a chiral compound according to formula (I)



wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy and heterocyclyl, ~~or R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> form together a -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>- group;~~

with the proviso that at least one of R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is not hydrogen;

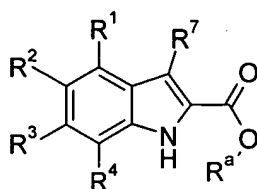
R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R<sup>6</sup> is alkyl, or cycloalkyl, ~~hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl;~~ and

R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio;

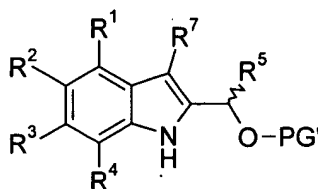
comprising alkylation of a compound selected from the group consisting of

a)



wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>7</sup> are as defined above,

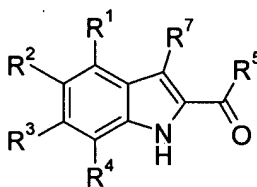
b)



E

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, and R<sup>7</sup> are as defined above, and PG' is hydrogen or an OH-protecting group, and

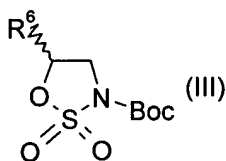
c)



Z

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, and R<sup>7</sup> are as defined above;

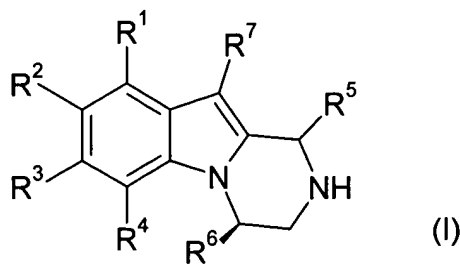
with a compound of formula (III)



wherein R<sup>6</sup> is as defined as above.

34. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) ~~as set out in claim 1~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically

acceptable ester thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient, wherein the compound is a chiral compound of formula (I)



wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy, or R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> form together a -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>- group;

with the proviso that at least one of R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is not hydrogen;

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R<sup>6</sup> is alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl; and

R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio.

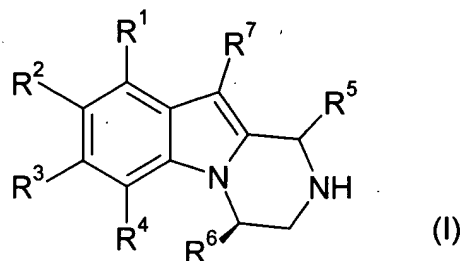
35. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy;

with the proviso that at least one of the moieties R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is not hydrogen; and

R<sup>6</sup> is alkyl or hydroxyalkyl.

36. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R<sup>6</sup> is methyl.
37. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen.
38. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl or alkoxy.
39. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 38, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen or methyl.
40. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy and cyano or R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> form together a -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>- group.
41. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 40, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, trifluoromethyl and cyano.
42. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 41, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano and trifluoromethyl.
43. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 42, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is methyl or ethyl and R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are hydrogen.
44. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 42, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is fluoro, cyano or trifluoromethyl and R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen or methyl.
45. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate, or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the compound is a chiral compound of formula (I):



wherein

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano and trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that at least one of  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  is not hydrogen;

$R^5$  is methyl;

$R^6$  is alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl; and

$R^7$  is hydrogen or methyl.

46. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

47. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 46, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

48. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

49. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 48, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

50. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
51. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 50, wherein the compound is (R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.
52. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
53. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 52, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.
54. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
55. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 54, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.
56. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
57. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 56, wherein the compound is (R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

58. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
59. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 58, wherein the compound is (R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.
60. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
61. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 60, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile or the hydrochloride salt thereof.
62. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
63. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 62, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the oxalate salt thereof.
64. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of  
(R)-6-thienyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;  
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;  
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;  
(R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;



(R)- 6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl -1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;  
(R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;  
(R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;  
(R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile; and  
(R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

65. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(S)-(7-Methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indol-4-yl)-methanol;  
(S)-(7-Trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indol-4-yl)-methanol; and  
(R)-10-Methyl-2,3,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-1H-8,10a-diaza-cyclopenta[c]fluorine;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

66. (New) The compound according to claim 2, wherein R<sup>6</sup> is alkyl.

67. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R<sup>6</sup> is methyl.

68. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen.

69. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl or alkoxy.

70. (New) The compound according to claim 69, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen or methyl.

71. (New) The compound according to claim 2, selected from the group consisting of:

(R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;  
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole; and  
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

72. (New) The compound according to claim 71, selected from the group consisting of:  
(R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;  
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole; and  
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.